

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 85, and 92. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the primer sequence being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of a polypeptide encoding portion of a nucleic acid; and

a collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid, the second portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid being separated by at least 20 nucleotides from the first portion of the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid; ~~and~~

wherein the primer sequence and the collar sequence adjoin one another to create at least one restriction site located between the primer and collar sequences.

2. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to first strand cDNA.

3. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to mRNA.

4. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the primer and collar sequences are capable of annealing to mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody.

5. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein the collar sequence is capable of annealing to the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid that is separated in the 5' direction from the polypeptide encoding portion of the nucleic acid to which the primer sequence is capable of annealing.

6. (Original) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 1.

7-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of an antibody encoding portion of mRNA;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of an antibody encoding portion of the mRNA; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

24. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework region of an antibody.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

27. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

28. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a constant region of an antibody.

29. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

30. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

31. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

32. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

33. (Previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 4 incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a framework region of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

34. (Previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 8 incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

35. (Previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 3 incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

36. (Previously presented) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to a first portion of mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence comprising SEQ. ID. NO: 7 incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to a second portion of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of an antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

37. (Original) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 23.

38-72. (Cancelled)

73. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 1 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

74. (Original) A plasmid as in claim 23 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

75-84. (Cancelled)

85. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of a coding sequence of mRNA encoding at least a portion of a first framework region associated with an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of ~~the~~ a second framework region associated with the antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

86. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of a framework region of a light chain associated with an antibody.

87. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the upstream collar sequence is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of a framework region of a heavy chain associated with an antibody.

88. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

89. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a framework two (FR2), framework three (FR3) or framework four (FR4) region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

90. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 85 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

91. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 85.

92. (Currently amended) A plasmid comprising:

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a downstream primer sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the downstream primer being capable of annealing to at least a first portion of a coding sequence of mRNA encoding at least a portion of a constant region associated with an antibody;

an upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid, the upstream collar sequence being capable of annealing to at least a second portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding at least a portion of ~~the constant~~ a framework region associated with the antibody; and

at least one restriction site located between the downstream primer sequence and upstream collar sequence incorporated into the plasmid.

93. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a light chain of an antibody.

94. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein the downstream primer is capable of annealing to a portion of the coding sequence of the mRNA encoding a constant region associated with a heavy chain of an antibody.

95. (Previously presented) A plasmid as in claim 92 wherein two restriction sites that are the same or different are located between the downstream primer and upstream collar sequences.

96. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed with a plasmid of claim 92.